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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. |
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09/099,048 06/17/98 NACAMULLI

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EXAMINER

CEPERLEY, M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1641

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DATE MAILED:

05/05/00

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

See the attached letter.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Art Unit: 1641

1. Prior to an examination on the merits, the instant application must conform to the formal requirements set forth in MPEP Chapter 1400. In particular, the following apply:

a. In accordance with MPEP 1411, Form of Specification, a cut-up soft copy of the original patent must be presented with appropriate underlining and bracketing.

b. Claims *added* to the patent *must* be underlined in their entirety (37 CFR

1.121(b)(2)(I)(B)).

c. All subject matter being added to an **original** patent claim *must be underlined*. All subject matter being deleted from an original patent claim *must be placed between brackets* (37 CFR 1.121(b)(2)(I)(C)).

d. It is noted that in the marked up copy of the patent provided by applicants, the underlining provided is incorrect. For example, to be consistent with the claims presented at the end of the specification, in claim 1 of the patent the word "biomolecular" which appears in the fourth, fifth and seventh lines should be bracketed, the term "preselected" should be bracketed and the underlined term "same" inserted in its place, and section "(k)" should be bracketed in its entirety (additional changes to claim 1 not addressed here have also been proposed).

2. *In the interest of advancing prosecution* and prior to an examination on the merits, applicants need to *discuss where specific support in the specification is to be found for the changes made to the original claims (e.g. the deletion of step "(k)" of claim 1 and the deletion of the term "biomolecular") and the added broadened claims.*

Art Unit: 1641

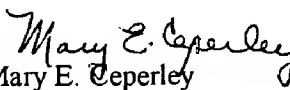
3. APPLICANTS ARE GIVEN A *ONE MONTH PERIOD FOR RESPONSE* TO CORRECT THE DEFICIENCIES NOTED IN PARAGRAPHS 1. AND 2. ABOVE.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mary E. (Molly) Ceperley whose telephone number is (703) 308-4239. The examiner can normally be reached from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Housel, can be reached on (703) 308-4027. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

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May 04, 2000
Disk: 03/00


Mary E. Ceperley
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1641